

None ever did, and I hope and trust, that none will ever so far forget himself, as to run the risque of being torn in pieces by these ruffians of municipal authority. The magistrates of Edinburgh were at one time something similar to our own, fond of feasting upon the public, and neglected to publish their accounts, until a Mr. Thomas Hamilton, a merchant of that city, by a process before the Exchequer Court, forced them to do so. Much need, God knows, have we in our town, of a Mr. Thos. Hamilton, or any other SPIRITED character, who would undertake to enforce such a salutary regulation. But we feel so many oppressions from the magistracy, that we live in a thoughtless age, lulled to servitude; and nothing, but the most ignominious thralldom, is intended for us, by our municipal rulers.

The next charge, I shall bring forward, is illegal imprisonment. For the most trivial offence, such as intoxication, quarrelling, &c. &c. are the citizens of this town sent to Bridewell, a place expressly declared for the reception and confinement of the most notorious THIEVES and VAGABONDS: and if ALL such characters were sent there, so many of our magistrates would not be seen every day, parading about the court house and other public places.

The next charge, I shall bring against them, is with regard to their Court of Quarter Session, and I shall now incontestibly prove, that they have sold the public justice of the country in the most shameful and disgraceful manner. A number of instances might be quoted, but one will suffice for the present. In the month of September, three men, of the names of Caton, Cashon, and Coleman, were tried for an assault on a man, of the name of Hickey, and by the jury found guilty. The sentence of the court was as follows—you Caton shall pay a fine to our SOVEREIGN LORD AND KING of 25*l*. you Cashon and Coleman shall be imprisoned, for the space of six months. Caton not having the amount of the fine in his possession,